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LETTER DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the command of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF).

Following the usual consultations, it is my intention to appoint Brigadier-General Cameron Ross of Canada to the post of Force Commander of UNDOF. General Ross will be promoted to the rank of Major-General before assuming the post. He will replace Major-General David Stapleton of Ireland who completed his tour of duty on 31 August 1998.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

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Annex

Curriculum Vitae

Brigadier-General H. Cameron Ross, OMM, CD
Commander, Land Force Atlantic Area

Brigadier-General Cameron Ross was born in Ottawa, Ontario on 8 February 1949. He attended Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, British Columbia and the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario graduating in 1973 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

An armoured officer, he joined his regiment, the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), in Calgary in 1973. His first regimental tour included an exciting tour as an armoured troop leader during the 1974 war in Cyprus. On return he traded his Blue Beret and weapon for a saddle and spurs and commanded the Regiment's Ceremonial Mounted Troop. As a Captain, he held appointments in Brigade HQ in Calgary and from 1978 to 1981 with reconnaissance and tank squadrons of the Royal Canadian Dragoons on NATO duty in Lahr, Germany.

After promotion to Major in 1981, he returned to his regiment in Calgary to command an armoured squadron. He attended a year long French language course in Calgary and St. Jean, Quebec, was a student at the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College, Toronto, Ontario, and then spent a year at the Canadian Forces Staff School as a syndicate director.

On promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel in 1986, he finished his tour at the Staff School as the Director of Studies followed in 1988 by a return to Calgary as the Base Administration Officer. From 1989 to 1991, he commanded his regiment. In 1991, he was posted to Army HQ in Montreal as the Senior Staff Officer Operational Training.

Promoted to Colonel in 1992, he was assigned to United Nations duties in Angola, Africa. He spent five months living with the guerrilla faction UNITA until posted to the capital, Luanda as the mission Chief of Staff when the country reverted to a civil war in January 1993. In April 1993, he was seconded to United Nations HQ in New York for a three-month period. It was in this capacity that he returned to Africa to develop the concept of operations for the missions eventually deployed to Uganda and Rwanda and to provide peacekeeping advice to the Organization of African Unity in Ethiopia.

From 1993 to 1995, Colonel Ross was posted to Ottawa as the Director of Operations (J3 Ops) for the Canadian Forces. As such he was responsible for the coordination of domestic and international operations including peacekeeping. He returned twice to Africa to provide peacekeeping advice in South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Tanzania. From July 1995 until June 1996, he commanded Canadian Forces Base Edmonton, Alberta during its construction and development phase in preparation for the troops that were deploying from the closed Bases of Calgary and Chilliwack.

In June 1996, he was promoted to Brigadier-General and assumed command of The Combat Training Centre at Gagetown, New Brunswick. In July 1997, not wishing to break from his status of "no fixed address", he moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia and assumed command of Land Force Atlantic Area with responsibility for the regular and reserve Army troops in the four Atlantic provinces.

Brigadier-General Ross' interests are his family, keeping fit, and continuation of a Masters of Arts in War Studies. He and his wife Patti have two sons, Angus (currently studying at Guelph University) and Hamish (14 going on 21).